LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) An air filter comprising:

a first filter layer formed of a first filter paper material having a predetermined density, said first filter layer being impregnated with oil; and

a second filter layer provided on a downstream side of said first filter layer so as to be independent from said first filter layer, said second filter layer being formed of a second filter paper material having a lower density than said predetermined density of said first filter layer, said second filter layer being impregnated over its entirety with an oil-repellent agent.

2. (original) The air filter as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said first filter layer and said second filter layer are combined integrally with each other.

3. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising an additional layer.

4. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said first filter layer has a pore size of from 70 μm to 120 μm and said second filter layer has a pore size of from 100 μm to 180 μm.

5. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said second filter layer has a downstream end, which is exposed.

6. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 2, wherein:

said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent treatment and then said first filter layer and said second filter layer are combined integrally with each other.

7. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 2, wherein:

said first filter layer and second filter layer are combined integrally with each other; and then,

said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent treatment and said first filter layer is impregnated with oil.

8. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 2, further comprising an additional layer.

9. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:

said first filter layer has a pore size of from 70 μm to 120 μm and said second filter layer has a pore size of from 100 μm to 180 μm.

10. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:

said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent treatment and then said first filter layer and said second filter layer are combined integrally with each other.

11. (previously presented) The air filter as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:

said first filter layer and second filter layer are combined integrally with each other; and then,

said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent treatment and said first filter layer is impregnated with oil.

12. (previously presented) A air filter, comprising:

a first layer of a first filter paper impregnated with oil; and

a second layer of a second filter paper placed in a downstream air direction adjacent the first layer,

a density of the first filter paper being greater than a density of the second filter paper,

the second layer formed as an oil-repellent lipophobic layer over an entire thickness of the second layer.

13. (previously presented) The filter of claim 12, wherein,

a downstream face of the second layer is exposed to air,

an upper, upstream face of the first layer oozes with the oil.

14. (previously presented) The filter of claim 12, wherein the second layer is impregnated with a resin containing fluorine.

15. (previously presented) The filter of claim 12, further comprising:

an adhesive layer binding the first layer with the second layer with the first and second layers contacting one another,

the adhesive layer penetrating a downstream side of the first layer and an upstream side of the second layer.

16. (previously presented) The filter of claim 15, wherein the adhesive layer comprises one of an olefin material and a polyester material.

17. (previously presented) The filter of claim 12, wherein,

the first layer has a pore size of from 70 μm to 120 μm and the second filter layer has a pore size of from 100 μm to 180 μm.

18. (previously presented) A air filter, comprising:

a first layer of a first filter paper impregnated with oil;

a second layer of a second filter paper placed in a downstream air direction contacting the first layer; and

a hot-melt adhesive layer binding the first layer with the second layer, the adhesive layer penetrating a downstream side of the first layer and an upstream side of the second layer,

a density of the first filter paper being greater than a density of the second filter paper,

the second layer formed as an oil-repellent lipophobic layer over an entire thickness of the second layer.

19. (previously presented) The filter of claim 18, wherein the second layer is impregnated with a resin containing fluorine.

20. (previously presented) The filter of claim 18, wherein,

the first layer has a pore size of from 70 μm to 120 μm and the second filter layer has a pore size of from 100 μm to 180 μm.